

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /101 W

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R 231522Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1939

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: CDU WILL OPPOSE SCHEEL

1. AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF INDECISION, THE CDU HAS DECIDED TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE TO OPPOSE SCHEEL IN THE ELECTION FOR FEDERAL PRESIDENT ON MAY 16. ON APRIL 22ND THE PRESIDUM OF THE CDU NOMINATED RICHARD VON WEIZSAECKER AND THE NOMINATION WILL BE CONFIRMED MAY 6 BY THE PARTY AS A WHOLE. THE SPD/FDP HAS A 535 TO 501 MAJORITY OVER THE CDU/CSU IN THE BODY THAT ELECTS THE PRESIDENT (BUNDESVERSAMMLUNG) AND THUS VON WEIZSAECKER HAS NO CHANCE OF ELECTION. HOWEVER, THE CDU'S DECISION IS POLITICALLY WISE BECAUSE IT GIVES THE OPPOSITION, WHICH HAS RECENTLY GAINED CONSIDERABLY IN PUBLIC SUPPORT, ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PLACE ITSELF AND THE ATTRACTIVE VON WEIZSAECKER BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

2. THE CSU, WHICH HAS ALL ALONG URGED THAT AN OPPOSING CANDIDATE BE NAMED, WILL, OF COURSE, SUPPORT VON WEIZSAECKER EVEN THOUGH THE POSITION OF VON WEIZSAECKER IS MORE LIBERAL THAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS WOULD LIKE. INDEED, STRAUSS HAS ALREADY PUBLICLY STATED THAT THE SELECTION OF VON WEIZSAECKER TO BE CANDIDATE IS AN ISOLATED ACT WITH ABSOLUTELY NO SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE

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FUTURE.

CASH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN06409
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740095-0657
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740423/aaaaatpe.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <08-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CDU WILL OPPOSE SCHEEL
TAGS: PINT, GE, (SCHEEL), (VON WEIZSAFCKER, RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005